

## *St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi Parish*

*We are a welcoming community of Jesus' disciples who journey together in right Faith, certain Hope, and live out His Love in word and deed.*

### Weekend Masses

**Saturday 4:00 pm**

St. Stephen Church

**Sunday 9:30 am**

St. Stephen Church

**Sunday 11:00 am**

St. Catherine Church

**Sunday 1:00 pm**

St. Faustina Polish Mission

St. Catherine Church

**Sunday 7:00 pm**

St. Catherine Church

**Livestream:**

**Sunday Oct 25**

### Weekday Masses

**Masses are Cancelled**

**Tue-Thu Oct 27-29**

**Tuesday 9:00 am**

St. Stephen Church

**Wednesday 9:00 am**

St. Stephen Church

**Thursday 9:00 am**

St. Stephen Church

**Friday 7:30 am**

St. Catherine Church

**Friday 9:00 am**

St. Stephen Church

**Saturday 9:00 am**

Franciscan Mass

St. Catherine Church



**Friday, Oct 30**

Margaret Purcell

**Saturday, Oct 31**

9am - Hal Dobbelsteyn

4pm - Marilyn Ann Shupe

## THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Sunday, October 25, 2026



#### Gospel Reading - Matthew 22:34-40

In today's Gospel, there is mounting tension between Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem, culminating in the last of three questions put to Jesus by religious leaders who try to trick him into saying something that might get him arrested. The third question concerns the greatest of the Commandments and requires Jesus to interpret the Law of Moses.

Mosaic Law consists of the Ten Commandments and many additional rules, numbering over six hundred. Adherence to Mosaic Law, for a devout Jew, is an expression of faithfulness to God's covenant with Israel. The ranking of the Commandments was regularly debated among the teachers of the Law.

Jesus answers the Pharisee's question with a two-fold summary. He says that all the Commandments can be summarized in just two: love God and love your neighbour. Both were central elements of the religious tradition that Jesus learned from his Jewish community. Indeed, they continue to be central aspects of contemporary Jewish religious understanding.

Jesus' response to his questioners proposed an integral connection between these two aspects of the Jewish Law. Love of God finds its expression in love for our neighbour.

*"Love God and love your neighbour."*

### Clergy Study Days - Oct 27-29, 2026

Please note that weekday Masses and Adoration will be cancelled during this time.

## Northwood Halifax

**10:15 am**

Second Wednesday of  
every month

## Berkeley Gladstone

**10:00 am**

Fourth Wednesday of  
every month

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesdays  
after 9:00am Mass to 4:00pm  
St. Stephen Church  
**Cancelled Wed Oct 28**

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Confession

Thursdays 7:30pm  
(Franciscan Holy Hour  
of Eucharistic Adoration.  
Confession available)  
St. Catherine of Siena Church  
**Cancelled Thu Oct 29**

### Confession Times

Saturdays after 9:00am Mass  
St. Catherine of Siena Church  
Saturdays 3:00- 3:45pm  
St. Stephen Church

### Pray the Rosary

Saturday 3:00-3:45pm  
Monday 7:15-8:00pm  
St. Stephen Church  
Sunday 6:20-6:45pm  
St. Catherine of Siena Church

 **Society of St.  
Vincent de Paul**  
**Food Assistance**

**St. Catherine's**  
902-455-6525

**St. Patrick's**  
902-405-3806

**St. Stephen's**  
902-405-3686

**St. Theresa's**  
902-414-4625

## Nova Scotia Seniors Grant Applications are Now OPEN!

The Seniors Care Grant helps low-income seniors with the cost of eligible household and healthcare services and home heating costs that help you stay in your home. Grants are \$750 for each household. Deadline for applications is December 1, 2026. To qualify for the grant, you need to be 65 years of age or older by March 31, 2027 and meet all of the following criteria: have a household net income of \$45,100 or less; live in your own home or apartment; have paid (or will pay) for household and healthcare services and home heating between April 1, 2025 and March 31, 2026.

For more information, visit: Seniors Care Grant <https://www.novascotia.ca/apply-help-household-healthcare-and-home-heating-costs-seniors-care-grant> or call Seniors Care Grant at 1-800-670-4357 (toll-free).



Our Hallowe'en Party started with reciting a Thanksgiving Friendship Prayer. Before Fr. Peter led Grace, he shared a special prayer for Pope Leo's health; as well, we remembered Fun For Seniors' friends and volunteers who are ill.

Appreciation to volunteers who helped prior to the event, and all those who assisted during the party. Thanks to Annette, Kevin, Pat M., and Georgina for your special donations and upcoming prizes.

Our 50/50 Prize Winner was Kay Ann Meagher



## St. Francis & St. Clare of Assisi Youth Group (Gr. 7-12) St. Catherine Church

Our next Youth Group Meeting will be on Wed Oct. 28 from 7:00-8:30pm. Registrations are ongoing and we hope to see lots of youth come out for great fun, discussions on faith and, of course, some delicious snacks!

Please contact: Maria McDonald to register or to inquire:  
[faithformationsfsc@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationsfsc@gmail.com)

## OCIA: Order of Christian Initiation of Adults



Thank you to everyone who attended our initial OCIA Information Session on Monday, Oct 19 at St. Stephen Church. It was a great night! Our next meeting is Monday, Nov 3 from 6:30-8:00pm in the Marian Room.

It is ***NOT*** too late: Perhaps you or someone you know is considering becoming Catholic or wants to learn more about the Catholic Church.

Please Contact Maria McDonald: [faithformationsfsc@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationsfsc@gmail.com)



## Young Adults (YA) Group Friday, October 30

Our next meeting is Friday,  
October 30 at 7:00pm

This will be a social night out. Michael McCoy or Ceasar Basilio will email you the details for this meeting. Contact Maria McDonald to register or to inquire:

[faithformationsfsc@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationsfsc@gmail.com)

## Family Faith Formation (Gr. P-6) St. Stephen Church

Please join us for our next Family Faith Formation class for **Students & Parents** on Sunday, Nov. 2 following the 9:30am Mass, in the Church Hall. The Program at St. Stephen is a Family-Based Program where the parents are involved, too! **See you then!**

Registrations are ongoing, so if you plan on registering your child/ren please email Maria McDonald, Faith Formation Coordinator at: [faithformationsfsc@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationsfsc@gmail.com)



## St. Catherine Religious Education Program for Elementary Students



This Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate a Children's Liturgy during the 11:00 am Mass.

Next Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, classes will take place from 10 - 10:45 am in the Church Hall. Please enter from the parking lot.

Program Information & Registration Forms are available at the entrance of the Church for students from grades primary to six to enroll in our Church program.

For more information on the program, please contact Donna Noddin: [donna.noddin@gmail.com](mailto:donna.noddin@gmail.com)



## St. Catherine's St. Vincent de Paul Conference

Each week, our Vincentians deliver food items and grocery vouchers to those in need within our community. In this time of rising inflation, the most vulnerable among us need our support more than ever.

After a summer of great need, we must turn to you again as, presently, the cupboards of the Society are getting bare and need to be replenished.

Food items are gratefully accepted each Sunday at Mass to fill our Food Bank. Essentials in the Food Bank include peanut butter, cereal, Kraft dinner, pasta and sauce, soups, cans of meat, cookies, and juice. We have expanded this list to include some basic toiletries such as soap, toothpaste, deodorant, Kleenex, and toilet paper. Your ongoing support does not go unnoticed.

***On behalf of those we serve, THANK YOU!***

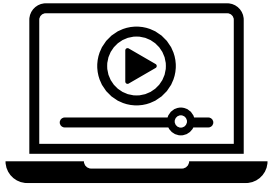
# Options for Giving to our Parish



The options for giving are available on the website: <https://www.sfscparish.ca/donate>

- Sign up for pre-authorized debit (PAD) on our website or by contacting the parish office
- E-transfer by sending donations to [officestfstc@gmail.com](mailto:officestfstc@gmail.com) (include name, designation of your gift, church)
- CanadaHelps.org - a secure third-party method to make a one-time donation and/or set up monthly donations by credit card (see parish website)
- Request weekly Sunday envelopes through the parish office.

Please be assured that any donations received will be assigned to your account and income tax receipts will be issued. Thank you for your continued generosity! Please contact the parish office if you require more information.



## Have you checked out formed for amazing Catholic content?

Movies, formation series, documentaries, devotionals, audio books, and eBooks. The Parish has a subscription to [formed](https://www.formed.org), so it doesn't cost you anything to use! New programs are added regularly. It is a great way to grow in faith, and it's easy to register and use. Just follow these instructions:

- Go to [formed.org/signup](https://www.formed.org/signup)
- Search for our Parish by Postal Code B3L 1P7 and click on our Parish name
- Register with your name and your email address
- Check your email account for a link to begin using [formed](https://www.formed.org)



## Healing Mass with Fr. Mark Cherry

Thursday, November 19, 6:30-10:30pm

at St. Stephen Church

Join Fr. Mark Cherry of Sacred Heart Evangelization and Healing Ministry for the final healing Mass in the autumn series. **All are welcome.**

### MEET OUR TEAM

Fr. Nathanael DesRoches, FoH - Administrator  
Fr. Peter Hanna, FoH - Associate Pastor  
Rev. Mr. Paul Carnell  
Rev. Mr. Bernie Coffin (Retired)  
Rev. Mr. Gérald LeBlanc (Retired)  
Rev. Mr. Gordon MacKinnon  
Rev. Br. Grant McLean, FoH [br.grant.sfsc@gmail.com](mailto:br.grant.sfsc@gmail.com)  
Sr. Rita Hanna, FoH

Anne James - Operations Coordinator  
[annejsfsc@gmail.com](mailto:annejsfsc@gmail.com)  
Maria McDonald - Faith Formation Coordinator  
[faithformationsfsc@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationsfsc@gmail.com)  
Elizabeth Clark - Administrative Assistant  
[officestfstc@gmail.com](mailto:officestfstc@gmail.com)

### PARISH OFFICE

#### Office Hours:

Monday - Closed

Tuesday to Friday - 9am to 1pm

Email: [officestfstc@gmail.com](mailto:officestfstc@gmail.com)

Telephone: 902-454-8221

Address: 6032 Normandy Drive, Halifax, NS B3K 2S9

Website: <https://www.sfscparish.ca>

*To place a notice or announcement in the bulletin, email it to: [officestfstc@gmail.com](mailto:officestfstc@gmail.com) by no later than 12:00pm on Tuesday mornings.*